



Washington  
State Department of  
Agriculture

## PLANT PROTECTION DIVISION PEST PROGRAM

### NORTHERN GIANT HORNET STAKEHOLDER UPDATE #22.08– AUGUST 18, 2022

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#### CITIZEN SCIENCE UPDATE

Citizen scientist trapping started July 1! Each year residents place hundreds of traps to help monitor for this invasive pest. Do you want to place a bottle trap, but missed the July 1 date? There is still time since worker hornets will be active through November.

Citizens are also participating in a new program called “Adopt a Wasp.” Over the last two years, both WSDA staff and the public have noticed northern giant hornets repeatedly attacking paper wasp nests. So this year we ask you to monitor paper wasp nests on your property, log their location, and report weekly on any activity.

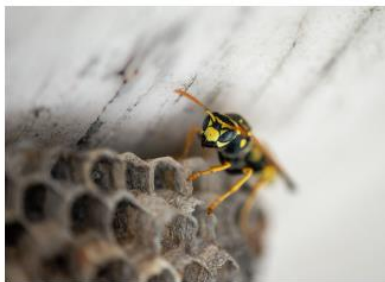
You can sign up to get a weekly text reminder to check your site and log the activity you see. To sign up for text reminders, text JOIN WASP to 1-800-443-6684. You should receive a confirmation text when you have signed up successfully.

It is important to find any populations as soon as possible, but any commitment to monitoring is appreciated. Huge thanks to everyone committing their time and resources to protect Washington from invasive species. [Click here to find out more about citizen science projects.](#)



#### TRAPPING

Learn how to build a hornet trap and report your catches to WSDA. Citizen scientist hornet trapping is conducted from July through November.



#### ADOPT A WASP

Commit to checking paper wasp nests for wasp and hornet activity. Paper wasp nest observations take place June through October.

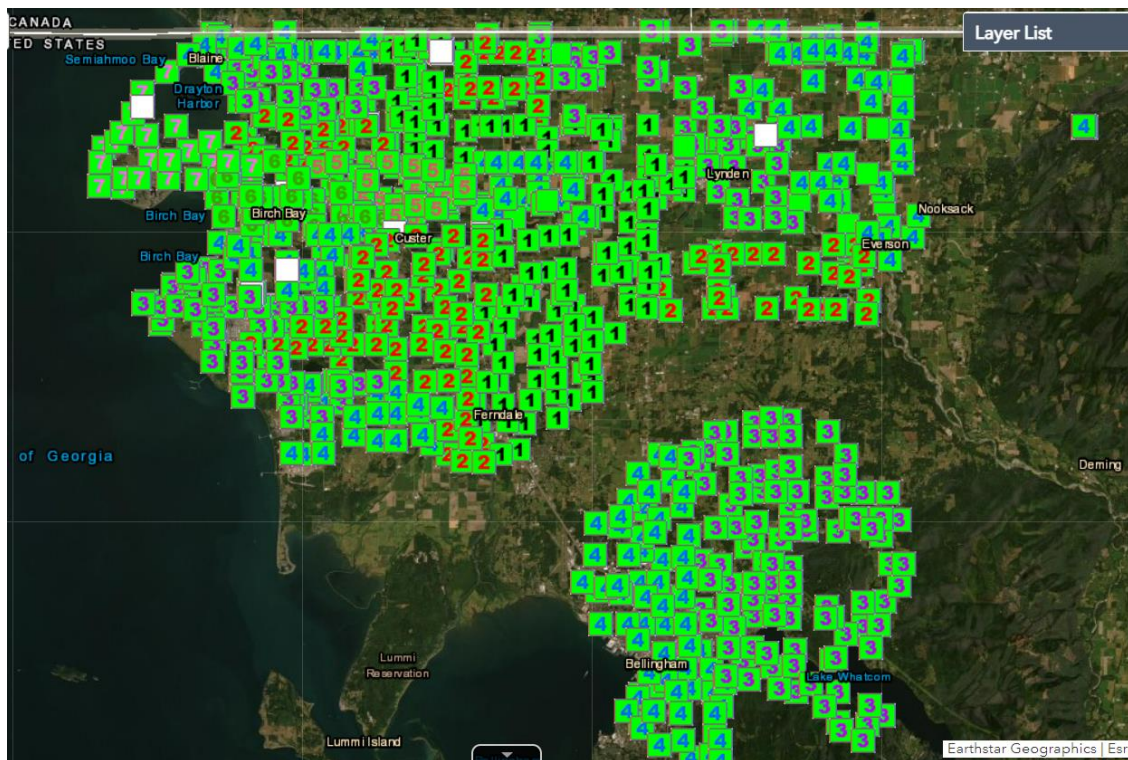


#### SPRING QUEEN VISUAL SURVEY

Look for and report northern giant hornet queen emerging in the spring. The spring queen visual survey occurs in April and May.

## WSDA TRAPPING UPDATE

WSDA has been busy setting and servicing traps for over one month in Whatcom County. Over 850 traps were installed and are checked on a weekly basis. The traps are based off of bottle traps from Japan baited with rice cooking wine and orange juice. They offer a tasty bit of fuel for the hunting hornets – which then drown in the solution.



## WELCOME COOPERATORS

In addition to citizen scientists, various agencies and other entities participate in hornet trapping. They make an official commitment to set and monitor several giant hornet traps for the season. This year around 20 organizations are monitoring over 225 traps, including:

- City of Anacortes
- National Park Service
- Samish Indian Nation
- Port of Anacortes
- United States Forest Service
- WSU Extension
- Department of Natural Resources
- Washington State Parks
- Mount Baker Beekeeper Association
- United States Department of Agriculture
- BP Cherry Point Refinery
- Pacific Rim Institute
- Island County Department of Natural Resources
- Whatcom County Parks and Recreation
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

- City of Bellingham
- Port of Bellingham
- Whatcom Land Trust
- Sound Water Stewards
- Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
- Swinomish Indian Tribal Community
- San Juan Island National Historic Park
- SnoKing Beekeeper Association

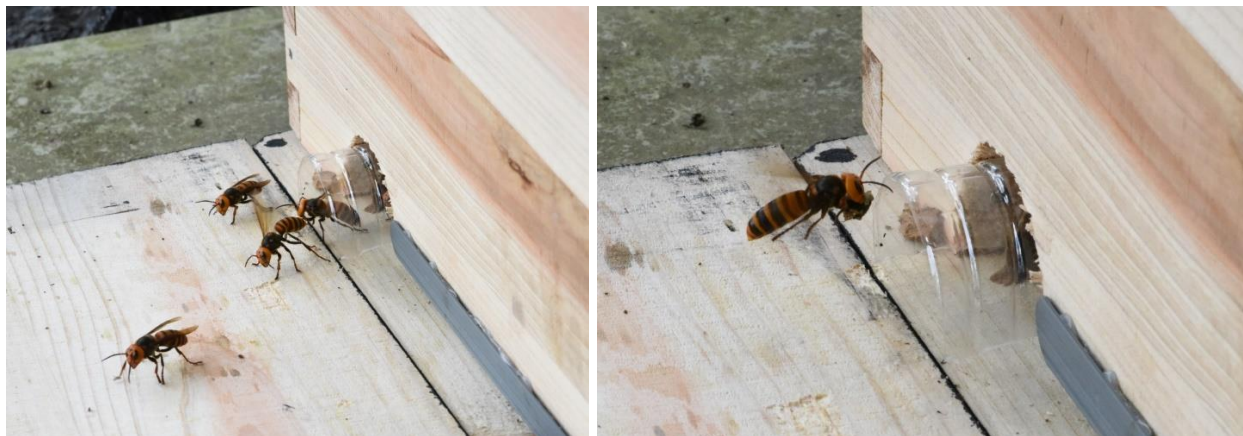
#### NORTHWEST WASHINGTON FAIR AUGUST 11 – 20

Come visit WSDA at the Northwest Washington Fair in Lynden from August 11 – 20 to learn all about northern giant hornets! We will be located inside the Phillips 66 Center and will have real (dead) hornet specimens, tracking devices, information about citizen scientist projects, and more. [Click here to connect with others.](#)

#### HORNETS ACROSS THE GLOBE, PART 4

Overseas collaborating scientists have installed three *Vespa mandarinia* nests at the research site in South Korea. WSDA entomologists previously installed monitoring equipment to gather data and further learn more about hornet behavior.

Some of the monitoring equipment is getting its final touches, and collaborators will soon begin tagging hornets. Stay tuned for updates!



Hornets leaving their colony (left.) Hornets entering nest with insect (right.)

Photos courtesy of Dr. Moon Bo Choi, Kyungpook National University, Daegu, South Korea.

#### NEW DETECTIONS

There have been no confirmed sightings of northern giant hornets reported to WSDA in 2022.

However, last year at this time we were about a week away from our first confirmed hornet sighting in Whatcom County. As insects start buzzing, try to be on the lookout for hornets, dead or alive.

It is still important to be on the lookout: dead or alive, NGH reports are helpful. If you think you have seen a hornet, [report it online](#), email at [hornets@agr.wa.gov](mailto:hornets@agr.wa.gov), or call 1-800-443-6684. Include a photo if you can safely obtain one.

## STAY CONNECTED

WSDA is dedicated to working with the public to provide information on northern giant hornets.

- View [past news releases, blogs, and Pest Program updates](#) about northern giant hornet.
- Join the [Washington State Hornet Watch Facebook group](#).
- Join the [Pest Program email listserv](#).
- Follow WSDA on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), and [Twitter](#).